GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:100
ANSWERED ON:18.02.2003
TUNNEL NEAR BORDER OUTPOST
NEDURUMALLI JANARDHANA REDDY

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to a news regarding `BSF discovers a tunnel near border outpost appearing in the Times of India dated January 13, 2003;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted to find out the agencies responsible for this act; and

(d) if so, the results of the inquiry conducted in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. On 11 January, 2003, the Border Security Force troops of border outpost Kassoke of Ferozepur sector of Punjab detected an unfinished tunnel in an area which had a thick growth of `Sarkanda` (elephant grass). The length of the dug tunnel was approximately 15 meters, diameter about two and a half feet and its opening at a depth of approximately 2 to 3 feet below the surface. The tunnel has since been filled up with earth.

(c) & (d): A Court of Inquiry has been ordered by the Border Security Force. This is in progress.